

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
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FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1652
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 0217

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GH, TO
SUBJECT: THE ARREST OF LTC KOFFI KONGO AND THE GHANAIAN QUESTION

1. THE ARREST OF LTC KOFFI KONGO (FOURTH-RANKING OFFICER IN THE TOGOLESE MILITARY) HAS REVEALED A DEGREE OF THE INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITY OF THE TOGOLESE GOVERNMENT. KONGO, WHO HEADS THE GOT SIDE OF A TOGOLESE-GHANAIAN BORDER DEMARCTION COMMISSION WAS IMPRISONED SHORTLY AFTER CHRISTMAS 1976 AND RELEASED ON JANUARY 16. HE WAS IMPRISONED BY PRESIDENT EYADEMA AS A DISCIPLINARY MEASURE FOR NOT HAVING REPORTED A GHANAIAN APPROACH RE TRYING TO FIND A SETTLEMENT OF THE TOGOLESE CLAIM TO THE WEST BANK OF THE VOLTA RIVER (TOGOLAND). REPORTEDLY, KONGO TOLD THE GHANAIANS WHEN THE ISSUE WAS RAISED IN THE COMMISSION THAT SUCH POLITICAL QUESTIONS WERE NOT WITHIN HIS MANDATE AND HE DROPPED THE MATTER THERE.

2. TOGOLESE GOVERNMENT PENETRATION OF THE GHANAIAN EMBASSY, HOWEVER, RESULTED IN THE ACQUISITION OF THE GHANAIAN REPORT ON THE APPROACH TO KONGO. EYADEMA CONFRONTED KONGO

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WITH THE UNREPORTED INFORMATION AND WHILE APPARENTLY CONVINCED OF KONGO'S INNOCENCE OR POLITICAL NAIVETE CLAPPED THE LATTER INTO MILITARY PRISON IN ORDER TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT ALL SUCH CONTACTS AND INFORMATION SHOULD BE REPORTED UP THE CHAIN OF COMMAND.

3. THE SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION IS A WELL-INFORMED FOREIGN AMBASSADOR. HE LEARNED THE BACKGROUND OF THE KONGO CASE FROM A CLOSE FRIEND OF FOREIGN MINISTER KODJO.

4. COMMENT: THIS ILLUSTRATES EYADEMA'S AUTHORITARIAN COMPULSION TO PERSONALLY CONTROL AND BE INFORMED ON ALL ASPECTS OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS. IT ALSO DEMONSTRATES EYADEMA'S FIDELITY TO THE NAPOLEONIC CONCEPT OF MILITARY DISCIPLINE IN WHICH EXEMPLARY PUNISHMENT IS GIVEN "POUR ENCOURAGER LES AUTRES."

PALMER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GH, TO, (KONGO, KOFFI)
To: STATE
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